

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL POSS DUPE

PAGE 01 ROME 03752 111832 Z

70

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12

IO-12 RSR-01 /116 W

----- 038300

R 111755 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8712

INFO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 3752

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IT, VS, XC

SUBJECT: PRG OFFICIAL' S VISIT TO VATICAN

1. SEPTEL REPORTS VISIT TO ROME OF PRG PARIS DELEGATION CHIEF NGUYEN VAN HIEU FOR AUDIENCE WITH POPE PAUL SCHEDULED FOR MAY 12.
2. ON MAY 11, WE DISCUSSED HIEU VISIT WITH RESPONSIBLE ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL, REITERATING USG OPPOSITION TO INCREASED CONTACTS WITH PRG, AND TO ANY OTHER ACTION WHICH WOULD SERVE TO ENHANCE PRESTIGE OF PRG AND ITS CLAIMS TO LEGITIMACY.
3. OFFICIAL RESPONDED THAT ITALIANS VERY FAMILIAR WITH US POSITION ON SUBJECT FROM EMBASSY' S PREVIUS REPRESENTATIONS ON MATTER. HE AGREED TO INFORM HIS SUPERIORS THAT EMBASSY HAD REITERATED US POSITION ON CONTACTS WITH PRG.
4. OFFICIAL SAID THAT TO HIS KNOWLEDGE NO REPEAT NO OFFICIAL OF ITALIAN GOVERNMENT INTENDED TO MEET WITH HIEU DURING HIS VISIT HERE, WITH EXCEPTION OF MINISTRY PROTOCOL OFFICER WHO ASSISTED ENTRY AT AIRPORT, AND GOI HAD GRANTED ENTRY VISA ONLY TO FACILITATE HIEU' S AUDIENCE WITH POPE PAUL. VOLPE

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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